Description and Outline of Veterans' Health class:

Working Title: Combatting Information Fatigue: Health Information Resources for Veterans and their Families

General Description: Veterans and their families need reliable health information resources and training to locate health information that is sensitive and pertinent to their needs. This course will cover resources for finding information on general health conditions, mental health resources including those for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), family issues, substance abuse, amputations, support groups and more. Additionally, this class will prepare participants to find and assess other veterans' health resources.

Target Audience: The target audience is veterans and their families, veterans' community-based organizations and librarians who serve veterans' and their family's health information needs. Prerequisites: familiarity with the Internet. The class is intended to introduce and demonstrate relevant information resources for veterans' health.

Educational Objectives:
Participants will be able to:
- Understand the unique information needs of veterans and their families
- Utilize resources presented to locate reliable, authoritative health information specific to veterans
- Acquire skills and knowledge to effectively identify and assess resources not covered in the class

Resources Covered:

General Health:
1) Evaluating health information – currency, bias, authority of source, quality, privacy
   Guide to Healthy Web Surfing Evaluating Health Information: health topic page and tutorial

2) MedlinePlus.gov – www.medlineplus.gov
   Health Topic Pages: Veterans and Military Health
   Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
   Go Local Sites
   Pre-formulated PubMed searches on topics of choice
   Directories: Facilities Locator and others

3) ClinicalTrials.gov – www.clinicaltrials.gov

4) Disability Information – www.disabilityinfo.gov
   Veterans and Military Section – http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=156

General Military Health:
1) My HealthE Vet – www.myhealth.va.gov
2) Deployment Health Clinical Center – www.pdhealth.mil/veterans/vet_specific.asp
3) VA Polytrauma System of Care – www.polytrauma.va.gov/index.asp
4) Disabled American Veterans – www.dav.org
5) Deployment Health and Family Readiness Library – http://deploymenthealthlibrary.fhp.osd.mil/home.jsp
6) Traumatic Brain Injury – www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/tbi/tbi.htm (signature injury of war in Iraq)
7) Veterans and Military Health: Websites Serving North Carolina – www.nchealthinfo.org/resources.cfm?info=0,164,0,0,0

Mental Health Resources:
1) 1) Vet Center – www.vetcenter.va.gov
2) National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder – www.ncptsd.va/gov/ncmain/index.jsp
3) Mental Health Self-Assessment Program – www.MilitaryMentalHealth.org
4) VA Mental Health – www.mentalhealth.va.gov

Support Groups and Organizations:
1) Citizen Soldier Support Program – www.ribbonstoreality.org/home
2) Wounded Warrior Project – www.woundedwarriorproject.org
3) Military Homefront – www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil
4) Military Onesource – www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx
5) Amputee Coaltion of America – www.amputee-coalition.org
6) National Amputation Foundation – www.nationalamputation.org

Demographic Group Resources:
1) Women Veterans Health Strategic Healthcare Group – http://www1.va.gov/wvhp
2) Center for Minority Veterans – http://www1.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/
3) National Native American Veterans Association – www.nnava.org
4) BlackMilitaryWorld – www.blackmilitaryworld.com

Current Awareness and Other:
1) House Committee on Veterans Affairs activities – http://veterans.house.gov
2) Veterans History Project – www.loc.gov/vets

3) Blogs – to read and keep up with veterans and military health issues – instruction on RSS feeds using www.bloglines.com or www.google.com/reader
4) Institute of Medicine: Health of Veterans and Deployed Forces – http://veterans.iom.edu